CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION 25X1A REPORT NO. COUNTRY Organization and Training of Militia, 20 February 1953 DATE DISTR. SUBJECT East China Arms Repair Shop, Foochow Area NO. OF PAGES 25X1A* RD A-5217 DATE OF INFO. REQUIREMENT NO. REFERENCES PLACE ACQUIRED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE. THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- 25X1C
- On 1 October 1952, Chinese Communist National Day, CHANG Ai-p'ing, chief of staff of the East China Military Area, stated that militia units would be reorganized and trained during the winter. The purpose of the large-scale training activities was to increase the knowledge of organizational, military, and political affairs, emphasizing political training, and to raise the cultural level of the trainees. The training program was to serve as the foundation for a widespread militia system and a compulsory military service system.
- 2. By late August militia units had been organized in 62 percent of the villages in Chekiang, 74.5 percent of the villages in Shantung, 53 percent of the villages in southern Kiangsu, 67 percent of the villages in northern Kiangsu, and 61.5 percent of the villages in Fukien. The number of militia unit leaders who had completed training by late August was 31,482 in Chekiang, 57,224 in Shantung, about 18,000 in southern Kiangsu, about 23,000 in northern Kiangsu, and about 27,000 in Fukien.

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On 23 September sea defense troops were billeted at Liuch'engts'o (0491/2052/0625) in Ch'ungwu (N 24-53, E 118-54). All sentry, patrol, and inspection duty was assigned to the local militiamen, who were billeted at Tiyehkung (1593/3639/ 1362) while on duty.

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- 4. In early September Chinese Communist militia were in charge of ship inspection at Houtouwei (1775/2435/1442), east of Hsiangchinchiao (N 24-46, E 118-46). There were no regular army troops at Houtouwei.
- 5. In July the Chinese Communist 16 Machine Repair Shop was outside the East Gate of Foochow. More than 400 machine guns and 5,000 rifles were being repaired there. On 18 July the 10 Army Group sent seven anti-aircraft machine guns to this shop for repair. The shop operated day and night.

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1. Comment. reported that CHANG Ai-ping (1728/1947/5493) was appointed chief of staff of the East China Military Area in June 1952.

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